



Department of Public Works - Project Update

Date: May 12, 2020

From: Christopher Wierzbicki, Public Works Director

Subject: Update on Sportsman Club/New Brooklyn Intersection Improvements

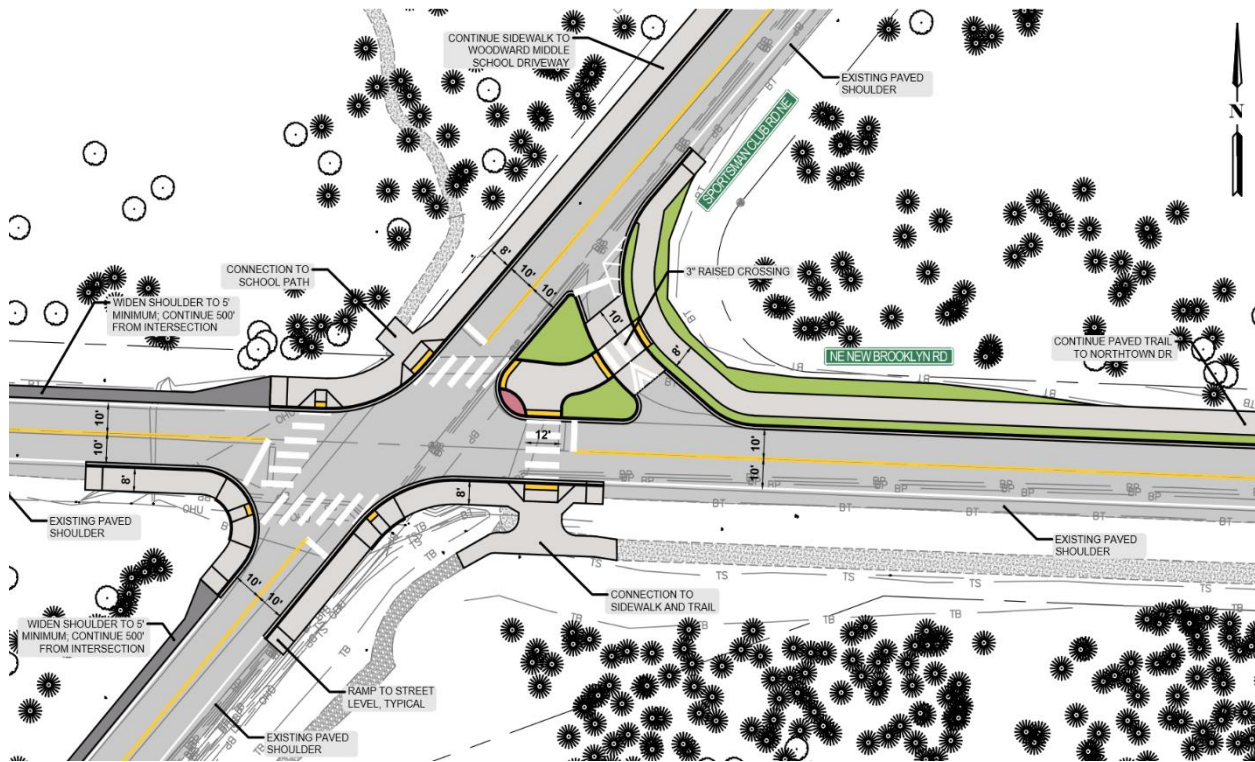
Background

At the March 3, 2020 City Council Study Session, the Council requested that the staff inquire with the federal granting authorities about extending the Sportsman Club/New Brooklyn intersection improvements grant timeframe, and revising the project scope to include only non-motorized improvements in lieu of a roundabout, due to concerns about pedestrian safety, tree removal and costs. In late April, the granting authorities agreed to a grant timeline extension for construction in 2021, and the requested scope revision.

Overview of Revised Scope

City staff worked with Toole Design to modify the scope of the project to more closely align with the City Council's direction. In short, the revised concept design consists of the following changes to the existing intersection:

- All corners of the intersection feature an 8-foot wide, paved multi-use path/sidewalk that can be used by pedestrians and bicyclists. The existing asphalt shoulder is removed and replaced with sidewalk, curb and gutter. This provides a physical edge to the roadway that positively contributes to traffic calming effects of the revised intersection;
- The multi-use path/sidewalk is extended on the east leg, eastward to the intersection with Northtown Drive (including a vegetated buffer), and on the north leg, northward to the intersection with the Woodward School driveway;
- Crosswalks are narrowed on each leg of the intersection, and a raised crossing is provided on the channelized right turn lane. This provides improved visibility and priority of the pedestrian and bicycle movement across the lane;



A schematic rendering of the Sportsman Club/New Brooklyn intersection improvements by Toole Design.

- Pavement is narrowed from 12 to 10-foot wide on all legs to calm traffic as vehicles approach the intersection. The plan is to provide 5-foot wide shoulders within 500-ft from the intersection in every direction on both sides of the road;
- Wide curb ramps are provided at the channelized right turn lane crossing, the connection to the Woodward Middle School trail, and the existing sidewalk/trail junction in the southeast corner of the intersection;
- Previously proposed lighting improvements, landscaping and an opportunity for public art will add to the safety and aesthetics of the intersection.

Budget Considerations

The revised project is anticipated to cost \$650K. The federal grant authorities have confirmed that the project is eligible for \$400K in grant funds for construction, with the City providing matching funds of \$250K. If the project is to move forward, the City Council would need to increase the current budget for the project, which includes \$123K of unspent City funds, by an additional \$127K to meet the required matching funds. If the project does not move forward, the City will need to repay \$155K in grant funds that were used for design. The City Council will discuss next steps on the project at the May 19, 2020 City Council meeting.